

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 USSS-00

CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SCCT-02

A-01 OPR-02 SY-03 OMB-01 DRC-01 /105 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1118

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 3027

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, MX

SUBJECT: APPREHENSION OF 23 SEPTEMBER COMMUNIST LEAGUE MEMBERS

ALLEGEDLY PLANNING TO KIDNAP US CONSUL IN CIUDAD JUAREZ

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGE RECEIVED BY TELEX 1751 HOURS LOCAL  
TIME APRIL 8 FROM GOODWIN SHAPIRO, CONSUL IN CIUDAD  
JUAREZ:

2. "APRIL 8 ISSUE OF EL MEXICANO, AN AFTERNOON DAILY  
OF THIS CITY, CARRIED STORY OF ATTEMPT BY MEMBERS OF  
23 OF SEPTEMBER GROUP TO KIDNAP ME. ACCORDING TO STORY,  
MEMBERS OF THAT GROUP FROM DIFFERENT PARTS OF MEXICO  
HAD PLANNED THE KIDNAPPING FOR MORE THAN TWO WEEKS BUT  
WERE FRUSTRATED IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO CARRY IT OUT DUE TO  
FACT THAT HEAD OF THE GROUP HERE, HECTOR RAMIREZ, WAS  
SERIOUSLY WOUNDED IN A SHOOT-OUT WITH POLICE OFFICERS.  
FURTHER REPORTED THAT RAMIREZ WAS INTERROGATED THIS  
MORNING AT THE GENERAL HOSPITAL BY THE STATE ATTORNEY  
GENERAL, LIC. ANTONIO QUEZADA FORNELLI. AFTER BEING  
INFORMED THAT HIS DEATH IS IMMINENT, RAMIREZ BROKE  
HIS SILENCE AND CONFESSED TO BEING A MEMBER OF THE  
23RD OF SEPTEMBER GROUP AND RELATED THE FOLLOWING:  
TWO WEEKS AGO, HE TOGETHER WITH ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL  
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NAMED ROGELIO MARTINEZ, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PLAN

OF ACTION DECIDED UPON BY THE 23RD OF SEPTEMBER GROUP, MOVED FROM LEON, GUANAJUATO TO CIUDAD JUAREZ, ON THE SAME DATE, OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WERE TO TRAVEL FROM GUADALAJARA AND MEXICO CITY TO CIUDAD JUAREZ. RAMIREZ AND MARTINEZ RENTED AN APARTMENT A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THIS CONSULATE (1052 CALLE GREGORIO M. SOLIS), OWNED BY JORGE VALDIVIA, FOR TWO MONTHS. DURING THAT TIME THEY WERE TO CARRY OUT THE KIDNAPPING. PRIOR TO THE KIDNAPPING, THEY PLANNED TO COMMIT SEVERAL ROBBERIES TO OBTAIN THE NEEDED MONEY.

3. "I READ THIS STORY AT ABOUT 3:30 P.M. AT APPROXIMATELY 4:15 P.M., SR. JOSE RUFUGIO RUVALCABA MUNOZ, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STATE JUDICIAL POLICE HERE, CALLED ME TO REPORT THAT LIC. QUEZADA FORNELLI, THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL, HAD MADE A FORMAL STATEMENT TO THE PRESS THIS AFTERNOON AND WAS NOW ACTIVELY WORKING ON THIS CASE WITH THE POLICE AUTHORITIES HERE. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTIONS, HE CONFIRMED THAT THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT AS GIVEN ABOVE IS ESSENTIALLY CORRECT. HE ADDED THAT RAMIREZ STATED THAT THE GROUP WAS PLANNING TO BUY GUNS AND PREPARED FOR THE KIDNAPPING OF THE CONSUL IN CIUDAD JUAREZ. POLICE SEARCH OF APARTMENT LAST NIGHT REVEALED VARIOUS TYPES OF CLOTHING AND WIG WHICH PRESUMABLY WERE TO BE USED IN THE KIDNAPPING ATTEMPT AND/OR ROBBERIES AND ASSAULTS.

4. "INTERESTING SIDELIGHT: SHOOT-OUT BETWEEN RAMIREZ AND LOCAL POLICE OCCURRED WHEN POLICE ANSWERED CALL TO INVESTIGATE DISTURBANCES BY YOUTHS ON STREET. AS POLICE APPROACHED THE BOYS, RAMIREZ, WHO HAPPENED TO BE ON THE SCENE, STARTED TO RUN. CHASE ENSUED, DURING WHICH RAMIREZ FIRED AT POLICE. POLICE RETURNED FIRE, SERIOUSLY WOUNDING HIM. RAMIREZ WAS IN POSSESSION OF BROWNING SEMIAUTOMATIC WEAPON.

5. "WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER DETAILS SOONEST."  
(SIGNED SHAPIRO).

6. EMBASSY AT THIS TIME SEES NO RELATION BETWEEN THIS REPORT AND PATTERSON CASE.  
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## Message Attributes

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